

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on January 14, 2014 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson
John Maycock, Clerk
Douglas Ovian
Mark Raymond
Chris Lyons
Cynthia Greenblatt, Alternate

Members Absent: Lisa Wurzer, Alternate
Damian Cregeau, Alternate

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Raymond, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on January 2, 2014.

APPLICATION NO. 4224-14. C.J. Picard seeks to demolish the existing one (1) bay garage and construct a new 32'x26' three (3) bay garage at 311 Main Street.

Mark Picard, C.J. Picard, and Eric Cavoli, 311 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. They would like to remove a single car structure from the late 40s or early 50s. The sill plates and studs are rotted and the foundation is crumbling and in need of expensive repair. They would like to construct a 32' x 26' three bay garage further back on the property. It would have vertical pine ship lap rough sawn siding (a sample was provided). It will have three garage doors (pictures and a cut sheet were provided). There will be one light on the side and two lights in the front. Light preferences were submitted. There will be a side entry man door. It will be a steel door (photo submitted) and it will be painted (probably red to match the house). There will be a single sash, true divided light, single pane window in the front (all wood) and two double-hung windows on either side, both of which are single glazed, true divided light, wood framed, wood sash windows. The outriggers and overhangs are rough-sawn pine. The garage doors are steel Haas overhead doors. There will be a wood louver on the front and the rear for ventilation. The new garage will be approximately 30' back from the existing garage. There will be no gutters or downspouts. They will use Timberline architectural shingles for the roof in a Williamsburg Slate color.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

APPLICATION NO. 4225-14. Trinity Parish seeks to demolish the existing three (3) bay garage at 290 Main Street.

Billye Logan, 318 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. They are in the process of selling the rectory. To divide the property, they would have to go right through the existing garage, so they would like to demolish the garage. They can't get a building line because of the location of the garage. The garage has three bays with wood overhead doors and it was built in 1966. Plans were submitted. The church wants to maintain ownership of the parking lot. The shed will remain and the driveway will remain as is. The garage is currently on a slab and they don't know if they will be removing the slab.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

APPLICATION NO. 4226-14. The Town of Wethersfield seeks to install one (1) memorial bench [three (3) in total] at the following locations; Standish Park, Cove Park, and Firehouse #1.

Kathy Bagley, Parks & Recreation Directory, 505 Silas Deane Highway, appeared before the Commission. They would like to install three memorial benches – one in Cove Park, one in Standish Park and one in front of Firehouse #1. The two park benches would be green to match the other benches and the one in front of the Firehouse would be a deep maroon color. They would all be 6' benches. The bench at the Firehouse would be behind the monument and almost against the building.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

APPLICATION NO. 4227-13. Sarah Castelli seeks to retain the replacement of windows and entry doors at 37 Chesterfield Road.

Sarah Castelli, 37 Chesterfield Road, appeared before the Commission. Her contractor installed the windows without obtaining the proper approvals from the Historic District Commission. The windows are Harvey Tribute simulated divided light windows. Photos of the house were provided. There are grills in the inside and outside of the windows. She currently has a wood front door that is warped and split. She would like to replace it with a fiberglass door (photo submitted). The door would have no lights and would have four panels. She does not want a storm door. The hardware is satin nickel. The door on the breezeway is a Therma-Tru fiberglass door with the grills applied to the inside and outside. The hardware is also satin nickel. She isn't sure if she will put the shutters back on the house. The picture window will now be flush with the house – a new construction window will be used. The trim around the windows will be white. On the breezeway, there is very simple paneling on the bottom, but she wants to put plain brick molding around the windows and the door.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application.

Barbara Clancy, 33 Chesterfield Road, via written correspondence dated January 7, 2014, spoke in favor of the application.

Mr. and Mrs. Pasquale Iudiciani, 82 Oldham Road, via written correspondence dated January 8, 2014, spoke in favor of the application.

Michael Talanec, 38 Chesterfield Road, via written correspondence, spoke in favor of the application.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

APPLICATION NO. 4228-14. Bel Air Construction & Design seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4184-13 to change the dimensions of a second floor window to allow for code mandated egress at 66 Cedar Street.

Applicant not present.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock seconded by Commissioner Raymond, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications, except Application #4228-14, and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

APPLICATION NO. 4224-14. C.J. Picard seeks to demolish the existing one (1) bay garage and construct a new 32'x26' three (3) bay garage at 311 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that with the gable end facing the street, you are going to see what you would hope to see a lot more, wood, than with the gable end not facing the street. You will see a lot of ship lap board versus T111 or other siding that isn't keeping with the period or the existing structure. They have a lot of property back there.

Commissioner Ovian stated that the building that is going to be lost isn't so precious that it requires restoration, although what is being built is substantially larger than what was there but it is further back. He is a little concerned with the scale of a three bay building with the gable end facing the street. The materials of the building aren't his main concern. It's going to be a pretty substantial building.

Commissioner Raymond stated that a three car garage facing wide with that petite house might be a little ...

Commissioner Lyons stated that it is almost 200' off the road. Ideally, it could be oriented the other way, but that would require other costs to move the driveway, etc.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

APPLICATION NO. 4225-14. Trinity Parish seeks to demolish the existing three (3) bay garage at 290 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that it's very understandable what the issue is here. It's not an important building with respect to the church. It would be nice if the rectory had a garage. It is just a slab. If they run into any issues, they can come back and amend it. It really doesn't have a lot of public visibility.

Commissioner Ovian stated that we don't want the slab there. It is a necessary stip. We have to stip a finish to the look. He doesn't want them to have the additional expense. His concern is that he would like to know what it's going to look like in advance.

Commissioner Lyons asked if there was a foundation on the slab. It just seems like an added cost to make them take that out. Then there will be some kind of expense to put something back down.

Commissioner Maycock stated that if they have to fill it with something, they are going to fill it with concrete.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

APPLICATION NO. 4226-14. The Town of Wethersfield seeks to install one (1) memorial bench [three (3) in total] at the following locations; Standish Park, Cove Park, and Firehouse #1.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioner Ovian stated that he appreciates Kathy's presentation tonight.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

APPLICATION NO. 4227-13. Sarah Castelli seeks to retain the replacement of windows and entry doors at 37 Chesterfield Road.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulations:

1. The picture window shall be Harvey Tribute with the light pattern to match the existing. The muntins shall be permanently affixed to the exterior of the glass.
2. There shall be no shutters installed.
3. All the window trim shall match the existing.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that he had the same concern as Commissioner Ovian with the windows. It's a very glaring change on this house that was very monochrome. Now you have these glaringly light windows so he's glad there was a conversation about painting trim because it's very appropriate from a color standpoint to have white windows and white trim on a Colonial structure. They did not read to him from the street as simulated divided light but he is taking the applicant at her word and the documentation that was presented because the commission has approved the use of those windows before. He thinks that once the project is completed, it will be softened by the change in trim.

Commissioner Ovian stated that he thinks this is a good example of why there are some good simulated divided lights and some that aren't so good and when the commission fusses over different brands and different applications of those brands, it's precisely for this reason that they do because he was told that these were grids between the glass. It's just a very low profile SDL. The Harvey is not his favorite product because there are examples of real installations around town to look at and some of them are much more successful than others. If she had come to us first, we probably could have recommended a product that would have been more successful.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 26, 2013

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey, seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the November 26, 2013 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Greenblatt

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the report as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

SPECIAL ELECTION

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to elect Commissioner Maycock as Clerk.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Greenblatt

Upon motion by Commissioner Greenblatt seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to elect Commissioner Ovian as Vice Chairman.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Greenblatt

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

None.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

1. Welcome to the new members of the Commission, Chris and Damian.
2. Heritage Trail Grant – Kristin attended meeting last week. They want to put up kiosks throughout the District. Some will be quite large. They will be putting in 16 smaller table style signs in other locations throughout the town. They are trying to determine where those will go and what information will be included. Some are at private homes. They will have to obtain approvals. Webb Deane Stevens and the Historical Society are working on the write-ups. They have also hired a consultant. They will have to come in front of the Commission for approval of the signs. They hope to have this finished by June of 2014. Meetings are held monthly on Thursdays at 4:30 p.m., dates have been provided. If any member of the Commission can attend, it would be beneficial. It is called the Heritage Trail, but they are considering renaming it so it isn't confused with the Heritage Way bike/walking path.

Correspondence

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John Maycock
-Clerk -